

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments

Claims 1-31, 33 and 35-49 are canceled.
Claims 32, 53 and 63 are amended.

Claims 32, 34 and 50-68 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

I. Applicant's Remarks filed 9/15/2008 with respect to claims 32, 53 and 63 have been considered and are persuasive. Thus the rejections of the claims have been withdrawn.

Examiner's Amendment

II. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

III. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. Scott Kaspar on December 17, 2008. Please make the following changes:

Claim 32 (Amended): A method for allowing users to use speech commands to obtain information from a pre-defined portion of a pre-selected web site in audio format, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a computer having a speech processor, said computer being operatively connected to the internet and to at least one phone;
- (b) providing a URL to said computer, said URL indicating a pre-selected web site from which the information is to be retrieved;
- (c) using said computer to designate a pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site which contains the information to be retrieved;

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- (d) using said computer to identify a named object associated with the content of the information to be retrieved;
- (e) using said computer to generate a regular expression based on said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site and said named object, said regular expression corresponding to said content of said information to be retrieved, **wherein said regular expression is a text string used for describing a search pattern;**
- (f) providing a speech command to said speech processor, said speech command corresponding to said regular expression;
- (g) said speech processor converting said speech command to a digital-form command;
- (h) said computer receiving said digital-form command from said speech processor, said computer assigning said regular expression to said digital-form command;
- (i) after steps (a) through (h) are completed, transmitting an audio speech command to said speech processor, said speech command corresponding to said regular expression;
- (j) said speech processor converting said speech command to said digital-form command;
- (k) said computer receiving said digital-form command from said speech processor;
- (l) said computer retrieving said regular expression corresponding to said digital-form command;
- (m) said computer retrieving the information from the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site corresponding to said regular expression when the requested information is found in the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected website;
- (n) said computer searching said pre-selected web site for said named object when the requested information is not found in the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site;
- (o) said computer providing said retrieved information to said speech processor;
- (p) said speech processor converting said retrieved information into an audio message;
and

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(q) said speech processor forwarding said audio message to a user.

Claim 53 (Amended): A system for retrieving information from a pre-defined portion of a pre-selected web site by uttering speech commands into a phone and for providing to a user retrieved information in an audio form, said system comprising:

a server, said server operatively connected to the internet and to at least one phone, said server comprising:

telephony hardware, said telephony hardware operatively connected to said phone and to said server;

at least one speech recognition engine, said speech recognition engine operatively connected to said server and to said telephony hardware;

a speech synthesis engine, said speech synthesis engine operatively connected to said server and to said telephony hardware; and

a call processing system, said call processing system configured to receive speech commands through said telephony hardware and forward said speech commands to said speech recognition engine and said call processing system further configured to receive an audio message from said speech synthesis engine and forward said audio message through said telephony hardware;

a first instruction set stored on said server, said first instruction set configured to identify the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site and to identify a named object associated with the content of the information to be retrieved, said pre-defined portion containing the information to be retrieved from the web site, said first instruction set comprising:

a uniform resource locator address for said web site; and

the named object;

a second instruction set stored on said server, said second instruction set configured to generate a regular expression based on said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site and said named object, said regular expression corresponding to said content of said information to be retrieved, **wherein said regular expression is a text string used for describing a search pattern;**

a recognition grammar corresponding to each said instruction set and corresponding to a speech command;

said speech recognition engine configured to receive said speech command and to select the corresponding recognition grammar, said speech recognition engine further configured to

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retrieve each said instruction set corresponding to said recognition grammar upon receiving said speech command;

a web browser operatively connected to said server, said web browser including at least a content extraction agent, a content fetcher, and a content descriptor file, said web browser configured to access said pre-defined portion of said web site defined by said instruction ~~set~~ sets and to retrieve said information defined by said instruction ~~set~~ sets;

said speech synthesis engine configured to convert the retrieved information from said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site into an audio message, and said speech synthesis engine further configured to transmit said audio message to said user.

Claim 63 (Amended): A method for allowing a phone user to set up and subsequently retrieve information in an audio format from a pre-defined portion of a pre-selected web site, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a server operatively connected to the internet and to at least one phone, said server being operatively connected to a speech recognition engine and to a speech synthesis engine;

providing a first instruction set stored on said server for identifying the pre-defined portion of a pre-selected web site containing the content of the information to be retrieved from the web site, said first instruction set comprising:

a uniform resource locator address for said web site; and

a named object associated with the content of the information to be retrieved;

providing a second instruction set stored on said server for generating a regular expression based on said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site and said named object, said regular expression corresponding to said content of said information to be retrieved, wherein said regular expression is a text string used for describing a search pattern;

providing a speech command to said speech recognition engine, said speech command corresponding to said instruction ~~set~~ sets;

said speech recognition engine assigning said speech command to a recognition grammar, said speech command and said recognition grammar corresponding to each said instruction set;

transmitting said speech command to said speech recognition engine;

said speech recognition engine receiving said speech command and selecting the corresponding recognition grammar;

said server retrieving each said instruction set corresponding to said recognition grammar;

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said server accessing said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site defined by said instruction-~~set~~ sets and retrieving said information defined by said instruction ~~set~~ sets when the requested information is found in the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site;

said server searching said pre-selected website when the requested information is not found in the pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site;

said speech synthesis engine converting the retrieved information from said pre-selected web site into an audio message; and

said speech synthesis engine transmitting said audio message to said user.

Reasons for Allowance

IV. This communication warrants no Examiner's reason for allowance, as Applicant's reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of Applicant's comments in the arguments filed on 9/15/2008 with respect to the claimed limitations of: "using said computer to designate a pre-defined portion of the pre-selected web site which contains the information to be retrieved; using said computer to identify a named object associated with the content of the information to be retrieved; using said computer to generate a regular expression based on said pre-defined portion of said pre-selected web site and said named object, said regular expression corresponding to said content of said information to be retrieved, wherein said regular expression is a text string used for describing a search pattern; providing a speech command to said speech processor, said speech command corresponding to said regular expression; said speech processor converting said speech command to a digital-form command; [and] said computer receiving said digital-form command from said speech processor, said computer assigning said regular expression to said digital-form command" sufficiently detail the reasons claims are patentable over the prior art of

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record. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement of an Examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

V. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Kristie Shingles whose telephone number is 571-272-3888. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kristie D. Shingles
Examiner
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/KDS/
/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

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